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FFA: State Career Development Events held at the College of Agriculture and Home Economics

Recently, New Mexico FFA hosted the State Career Development Events (CDE) at the College of Agriculture and Home Economics to give FFA members an opportunity to compete against each other in various events and to test their skills and abilities among their peers.

Approximately 1400 students from schools around the state came to compete in several events including:

- ◆ Landscape Design
- ◆ Livestock Evaluation
- ◆ Forestry

- ◆ Pasture and Range
- ◆ Floriculture
- ◆ Horse Evaluation
- ◆ Dairy Evaluation
- ◆ Entomology
- ◆ Middle School Quiz Bowl

Kim O'Byrne, Assistant State Supervisor of Agricultural Education/FFA, stated that each event is specific to the knowledge and skills required of that field.

The overall event is not all work, students look forward to a dance and awards program. This year the Dora

Chapter won the Production Agriculture Sweepstakes and the Tucumcari Chapter won the Horticulture Sweepstakes.



High School Internship Program offers juniors and seniors opportunity to experience Agricultural Education

High school juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to enroll in a new internship program to give them skills required in the field of Agricultural Education.

The Advanced Internship Program is geared toward students interested in a career in Agricultural Education. The students can enroll at New Mexico State University and receive up to four credits in AXED 100

and 230. During their internship, students will be required to document their experiences in a portfolio.

Kim O'Byrne, Assistant State Supervisor of Agricultural Education/FFA stated that the internship program will provide a job shadowing experience with a highly qualified supervising teacher and an opportunity to learn first-hand the responsibilities of an agricultural

education teacher.

Students interested in a career with Cooperative Extension will be given the opportunity to work in an Extension office and shadow an Extension agent.

This is a win-win situation for high school students to develop professionalism and gain experience for a career in Agricultural Education while earning college credits.

Cutting Edge Activities Expand Beyond Traditional Instruction in Agricultural and Extension Education

The Agricultural and Extension Education Department has developed realistic training programs along with traditional instruction for students to



experience first hand the field of study they have chosen in the Agricultural Education program .

Dr. Carlos Rosencrans, Associate Professor, is currently involved in windmill technology and is an expert in windmill repair. He will be teaching a Windmill Technology

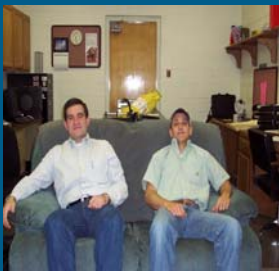
Certification Workshop in San Angelo, Texas. The workshop is scheduled on May 31 - June 2, 2007 at the Aermotor Manufacturing Plant. The instructors are Dr. Rosencrans, Dr. James Dean, Professor Emeritus, NMSU and Craig Runyan, Water Resource Specialist, New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service. The workshop will

train students in windmill applications, wellhead protection, assembly, maintenance and repair of conventional windmill equipment. There will also be a complete motor and tower installation field exercise. The sponsored hosts are Kees Verhuel, Owner of Aermotor Windmill, Inc., and Bob Bracher, President of Aermotor Windmill, Inc. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$275 due May, 1, 2007. Contact Michelle Rodriguez at (325) 651-4951, or email sales@aermotorwindmill.com for more information on the workshop.

This semester, Dr. Rosencrans and Las Cruces High School agriculture teacher Star Dean are teaching AXED 485 (AgriScience Laboratory Applications) and Dr. Rosencrans is teaching AXED 436/536 (Keys to Ag & Rural Development) classes. The AXED 436/536 class is an online class which

meets four times during the semester. The focus of the class is on specific businesses in rural areas and their impact on the community. During spring break, the entire class went on a field trip to Roswell, Portales and Clovis to tour different businesses in those areas. They visited a livestock auction, peanut grading station, and an ethanol processing facility along with other businesses to see how successful the businesses have been and to identify their niche markets.

The AXED 485 class gives students instruction in learning to set up and teach in an agriscience program, utilizing a variety of technologies such as aquaculture systems, and applications, microscopy, tissue culture, soil and water testing, electrophoresis, hydroponics, and global positioning systems. Dr. Rosencrans stated that students develop their own modules/experiments and pilot test them in the lab.



David Langley, left and Morgan McConnaughey, right
AXED Graduate Assistants

AXED Graduate Assistants

David Langley and Morgan McConnaughey are the most recent graduate assistants in the Agricultural and Extension Education Department. They work for Dr. Dormody, Dr. SeEVERS and Dr. Rosencrans assisting them with their classes and labs.

David is getting his Master's Degree in AXED. He is a first year graduate assistant

and plans on teaching in New Mexico after he graduates. Currently he assists in AXED 445 (Planning and Methods in Career and Technical Education), teaches labs for AXED 201 (Effective Leadership and Communications in Agricultural Organizations) and works on various projects for Dr. SeEVERS and Dr. Dormody. David plans on graduating May 2008.

Morgan is also working on his Master's degree in AXED. He is a first year graduate assistant who assists Dr. Rosencrans in AXED 205 (Metal Technology Fabrication). He also teaches AXED 201 labs. Morgan recently took a job in Wyoming to work as a representative for an oil company. He stated that he plans to continue his graduate program from a distance. You can find David and Morgan in Room 150 in Gerald Thomas Hall.

Grant Writing Class Offered Summer I, 2007

The Agricultural and Extension Education Department will be offering a Grant Writing class during Summer I from June 11-15 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Gerald Thomas Hall, Room 114. The class is AXED 594, section 20 (1 credit) and section 21 (2 credits).

Dr. Miley Gonzalez, Secretary and Director of New Mexico Department of Agriculture and AXED Affiliated Faculty Member, will be

instructing the class which focuses on grant proposal development, from understanding grants to putting together the proposal. There will be a discussion of evaluation criteria and what reviewers are looking for when evaluating proposals.

Dr. Gonzalez has extensive experience in grant writing and teaching grant writing. He has

been awarded millions of dollars from his past efforts in writing grant proposals.

The class is limited to 15 students who can take the class for one credit hour for just attending and two credits for also drafting a grant proposal and critique.

Dr. Gonzalez has extensive experience in grant writing and teaching grant writing. He has been awarded millions of dollars from past efforts in writing grant proposals.

New Major in AXED focuses on Agriculture and Community Development

The department has a new major in Agriculture and Community Development. The purpose of the major is to produce graduates who will be capable of fostering development among people in rural to urban and domestic to international communities utilizing their skills in human capital development and sustainable development of agricultural and natural resource opportunities.

Graduates will be able to employ participatory multi-systems approaches to solving problems in agriculture and natural resources by understanding the interrelationships between crops, livestock, and the technologies used

to produce and process them; economics; natural resource and environmental concerns; and people in their problem solving approaches.

The combination of understanding how these technical subsystems operate and interact in a larger context and "people (leadership, communications, education, and development) skills" will make graduates well-suited for leadership and other people-oriented agricultural and natural resource positions in government, politics, law, community, and international development; communications, public relations, Cooperative Extension, teaching (with additional graduate level teacher certification coursework), and similar fields.

AXED student Stefanie Grider stated, "this new major is important because of our world's changing needs. I feel this major is a wonderful opportunity to gain a variety of agricultural skills."

In addition to general education requirements and required leadership, communications, education and development courses in AXED, students who chose this major will have to complete coursework in plant and pest sciences, animal science, natural resources and agricultural business.

If you would like more information on the new major, call the department office at (505) 646-4511.

Agricultural and Natural Resource Leadership Minor New to AXED

Students in and outside of the AXED program can now minor in Agricultural and Natural Resource Leadership.

The minor in Agricultural and Natural Resource Leadership is designed for undergraduate students studying in agricultural and

natural resource related fields who would like to develop knowledge and skills in leadership and related areas.

The 18-credit minor covers the themes of leadership and motivation, conflict resolution, leading change, analyzing and making policy, communication, team dynamics, and citizenship or

service learning.

If the minor is a success, there is a possibility it could grow into a new major in the future.

For more information on the minor contact the department office at (505) 646-4511.

New Mexico State University



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MISSION STATEMENT

Preparing and supporting educators and leaders in agriculture to improve the economic well-being and quality of life of all stakeholders.



Dr. Carlos Rosencrans receives Outstanding Professor Award

The College of Agriculture and Home Economics held their 6th Annual Recognition Banquet on April 20, 2007. Every year there are different awards given to faculty members and students for their hard work and dedication to the college. This year (2006-07), Dr. Carlos Rosencrans from the Agricultural and Extension Education Department was given the Outstanding Professor Award.

Dr. Rosencrans stated he was honored to receive the award. He stated that

the nomination came from the students in AXED, and was chosen by the Agriculture and Home Economics Council. Being nominated by his students makes the award special.

Dr. Rosencrans received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from NMSU and his Doctorate from Iowa State University and has been teaching at NMSU for 11 years.

Congratulations to Dr. Rosencrans for receiving this very prestigious award.

Keep up the good work!



Look Who's Going on Sabbatical

Dr. Tom Dormody, Agricultural and Extension Education Department Head is going on sabbatical from July 1, 2007 through January 2, 2008. He will be traveling to Reno, Nevada where he will work with Dr. Vern Luft, Associate Dean of the College of Education and Dr. Bill Sparkman, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Nevada at Reno (UNR).



Dr. Dormody stated that the Agricultural Education program is in the College of

Education at UNR. He hopes to gain more administrative experience and watch master teachers while at UNR. He stated that he will also visit Oregon and California universities to gain insight into their agricultural education programs and bring back good ideas to NMSU.

While in Reno, Dr. Dormody also plans to visit relatives in the area and do some fly fishing and backpacking in the Sierras. He stated that he likes the casinos but will try

to stay away from them except for visiting the buffets as a break from his own cooking.

Another faculty member, Dr. Dawn VanLeeuwen, has been on sabbatical, as well. Dr. VanLeeuwen has been on sabbatical since January 2007. She stated that she will return in July 2007 to prepare for the fall semester.

During her sabbatical, Dr. VanLeeuwen took three professional development courses in statistics. She stated that by taking these courses, she will have more skills and tools in programming, training and analyzing data. Dr. VanLeeuwen will be teaching AXED 571 (Data Collection) in the Fall.